(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) Airports Authority of India (AAI) has finalized various development plans for upgradation of Rajkot airport such as construction of new Terminal Building including expansion of apron, extension of runway to 7500ft. and its strengthening for AB-320 type of aircraft operations, upgradation of ground lighting facilities and safety services.

The initiation of these works is subject to handing over of required land by the Railway Authorities and diversion of Rajkot-Jamnagar Highway by the State Government of Gujarat.

Impact of open skies agreement with ASEAN countries

1350. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the proposed open skies agreement with ASEAN countries will become operational from 2010;

(b) if so, whether any fresh review has been undertaken to assess the impact of this open skies regime, which may *inter alia* intensify competition from some mega carriers, result in excess capacity to threaten the existence of the Indian carriers, which are already incurring heavy losses, presently reported to be around Rs. 2200 crores this year.

(c) if so, the results thereof; and

(d) the fresh strategy drawn up to control the excess capacity and/or to develop suitable calibrated approach to liberalization?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) to (d) No decision has been taken, as yet, to join the proposed open sky agreement with ASEAN countries.